CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A method usable with a computer, comprising:

in response to the computer being in a predetermined sleep state, driving a signal to cause a component to conduct a current in response to ~~conducting a current from a supply voltage plane of the computer to ground in the absence of a voltage on the supply voltage plane to prevent~~ a subsequent back-driven voltage on the supply voltage plane to restrict a magnitude of the voltage; and

in response to the computer being in a predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state, removing the signal ~~halting the conduction of the current~~.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state comprises a higher power state than the predetermined sleep state.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state comprises another sleep state.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said predetermined sleep state comprises a state within a range of predetermined sleep states.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the range of predetermined sleep states comprises the lowest power sleep states of the computer.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the back-driven voltage is ~~coupling controls a voltage level on the supply voltage plane~~ produced by a powered peripheral.

7.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

in response to the computer being in said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state, coupling ~~the~~ a power resource to the supply voltage plane.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 9, wherein the power resource comprises a voltage regulator to furnish power to the supply voltage plane in response to the computer being in said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer comprising:

a supply voltage plane;

a power resource to provide power to the supply voltage plane;

a load; and

a circuit to:

in response to the computer being in a predetermined sleep state, drive a signal to cause a component to conduct a current in response to ~~couple the load to conduct current from a supply voltage plane of the computer to ground in the absence of a voltage on the supply voltage plane to prevent~~ a subsequent back-driven voltage on the supply voltage plane to minimize a magnitude of the voltage, and

in response to the computer being in a predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state, remove the signal ~~decouple the load to halt the current~~.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer of claim 11, wherein the ~~circuit~~ component comprises:

a switch.

13. (Original) The computer of claim 11, wherein said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state comprises a higher power state than the predetermined sleep state.

14. (Original) The computer of claim 11, wherein said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state comprises another sleep state.

15. (Original) The computer of claim 11, wherein said predetermined sleep state comprises a state within a range of predetermined sleep states.

16. (Original) The computer of claim 15, wherein the range of predetermined sleep states comprises the lowest power sleep states of the computer.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) The computer of claim 11, wherein the power resource comprises a voltage regulator to furnish power to the supply voltage plane in response to the computer being in said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state.

19. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a computer comprising:

a supply voltage plane;

a power resource to provide power to the supply voltage plane;

a load; and

a circuit to:

in response to the computer being in a predetermined sleep state, drive a signal to cause a component to conduct a current in response to ~~couple the load to conduct current from a supply voltage plane of the computer to ground in the absence of a voltage on the supply voltage plane to prevent~~ a subsequent back-driven voltage on the supply voltage plane to minimize a magnitude of the voltage, and

in response to the computer being in a predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state, remove the signal ~~decouple the load to halt the current~~..

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein the ~~circuit~~ component comprises:

a switch.

21. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state comprises a higher power state than the predetermined sleep state.

22. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said predetermined state other than the predetermined sleep state comprises another sleep state.

23. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said predetermined sleep state comprises a state within a range of predetermined sleep states.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the range of predetermined sleep states comprises the lowest power sleep states of the computer.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the power resource comprises a voltage regulator.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~wherein the coupling comprises~~:

substantially grounding the supply voltage plane in response to the predetermined sleep state.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~wherein the coupling comprises~~:

establishing a resistance in a range of approximately one to ten ohms between the supply voltage plane and ground in response to the predetermined sleep state.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 11, wherein the circuit, in response to the computer being in the predetermined sleep state, substantially grounds the supply voltage plane.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer of claim 11, wherein the circuit, in response to the computer being in the predetermined sleep, state establishes a resistance between the supply voltage plane and ground in a range of approximately one to ten ohms.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the circuit, in response to the computer being in the predetermined sleep state, substantially grounds the supply voltage plane.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the circuit, in response to the computer being in the predetermined sleep, state establishes a resistance between the supply voltage plane and ground in a range of approximately one to ten ohms.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the coupling lasts for substantially the duration of the predetermined sleep state.